IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 16 without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter therein.

Claims 8 and 13 have been amended. Clean copies of the amended claims are presented herein. Attached herewith is a separate sheet highlighting the changes to the claims.

8. (Amended) A method for achieving a target electrical impedance Z_t in an electrical power distribution structure including a pair of parallel planar conductors separated by a dielectric layer, the method comprising:

determining a separation distance h between the parallel planar conductors required to achieve the target electrical impedance Z_t;

determining a required number n of a selected type of discrete electrical capacitor dependent upon an inductance of the electrical power distribution structure L_p and a mounted inductance L_m of a representative one of the selected type of discrete electrical capacitor when electrically coupled between the planar conductors, wherein $n \geq 2$;

using the target electrical impedance Z_t to determine a required value of mounted resistance $R_{m\text{-}req}$ for the n discrete electrical capacitors;

selecting the required number n of the selected type of discrete electrical capacitor, wherein each of the n capacitors has a mounted resistance R_m substantially equal to the value of required mounted resistance $R_{m\text{-}req}$; and

electrically coupling the n discrete electrical capacitors between the planar conductors.

13. (Amended) The method as recited in claim 8, further comprising:

selecting a thickness t for the dielectric layer such that the thickness t is less than or equal to the required separation distance h;

using thickness t to determine the inductance of the electrical power distribution structure L_p;

selecting the type of discrete electrical capacitor, wherein capacitors of the selected type have at least one substantially identical physical dimension; and

using the at least one substantially identical physical dimension to determine the mounted inductance L_m of the representative one of the selected type of discrete electrical capacitors.

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 were pending in the application. Claim 16 has been cancelled. Claims 8 and 13 have been amended. Claims 1-15 and 17-30 are currently pending in the application.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection:

Claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harada, et al., U.S. Patent 6,198,362, in view of Roy et al., "ESR and ESL of Ceramic Capacitor Applied to Decoupling Applications" and Novak, "Reducing Simultaneous Switching Noise and EMI on Ground/Power Planes by Dissipative Edge Termination". Claim 16 has been cancelled, and thus Applicant believes its rejection to now be moot. With respect to the remaining claims, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The cited references, taken singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the elements of the independent claims. Harada teaches a printed circuit board.